

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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14 NOVEMBER 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Israel-Syria

a. There have been no more exchanges along the Israeli-Syrian border since yesterday's clash, the largest in more than two years.

b. The Israeli air strike was in retaliation for Syrian fire on an Israeli patrol and Israeli settlements. The Israelis claim two Syrian tanks were destroyed. Syria admits suffering seven killed and 26 wounded.

c. While the UN-arranged cease-fire seems to be holding, tempers have been aroused, and any new incident would probably lead to increasingly serious fighting.

2. South Vietnam

a. Huong was grilled by the High National Council yesterday. Some members criticized his cabinet, but no changes appear imminent.

b. Army paratroops kept the students in line yesterday, but more demonstrations are expected this weekend.

(Cont'd)

c. Yesterday morning there was another incident on the Cambodian border. [redacted]

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[redacted] Sihanouk's men crossed the border and kidnapped three Vietnamese.

d. Vietnamese paramilitary troops gave chase into Cambodia. After a firefight, the troops returned with two Cambodian prisoners whom they intend to show to the press today.

3. Iraq

a. The Iraqi Government is preparing to renew its war with the Kurds.

[redacted] Kurdish political demands and continued incidents between Mulla Mustafa Barzani's followers and the army made the renewal likely.

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(Cont'd)

d. A Kurdish-Iraqi cease-fire was arranged last February. The Kurds, however, have continued to make sweeping demands for autonomy which have been generally unacceptable to the Arabs.

[REDACTED]

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4. West Germany

a. Erhard is trying to set the stage for a grain price decision [REDACTED] and has apparently accepted a delay in the MLF.

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[REDACTED]

d. Adenauer was [REDACTED] authorized to tell De Gaulle that Bonn thought the new British proposals took some of the urgency out of the MLF.

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e. German officials tell us that they look upon the British proposals as bringing a delay of a month or so, during which there will be a better atmosphere for dealing with the grain price problem.

f. A prominent member of Erhard's Christian Democratic Union Party, however, has told us that Adenauer's remarks may have led De Gaulle to believe the Germans were putting the MLF "on ice" indefinitely.

NOTES

- A. Cambodia Sihanouk may be getting ready to force the closure of the US Embassy in Phnom Penh. The Cambodian radio this morning quoted him as saying the embassy is a "center of espionage and subversion." If it remains open, he added, "we will surely face danger in the future."
- B. Dahomey - Communist China Peiping has won recognition from yet another African state. The government radio in Dahomey announced yesterday the establishment of diplomatic relations and the decision to exchange ambassadors.
- C. USSR-UN Foreign Minister Gromyko told Ambassador Kohler on 11 November that the USSR's position on the Article 19 question is "unchanged." Kohler received the impression that Gromyko's attitude toward further informal talks with Secretary Rusk and possibly his attendance at the General Assembly might be affected by the outcome of the Article 19 question. Gromyko contrasted the new Soviet leaders' avowed intention to continue improving US-Soviet relations with the US position on Article 19 which, he said, could "only result in increased tensions."

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- E. Bolivia Brazilian Foreign Minister Vasco believes that his country and Argentina will recognize the Bolivian junta next week and hopes that US recognition will follow. He said that while Brazil and Argentina are not enthusiastic about Barrientos, they believe that he is the best man available and that early recognition will strengthen his position.
- F. Mexico Before he leaves office on 1 December, Lopez Mateos apparently hopes to line up Soviet technical assistance for Mexico's growing petro-chemical industry. An agreement is now being discussed with a delegation of Soviet experts invited by PEMEX, which recently bought some Soviet drilling equipment. Diaz Ordaz has also asked PEMEX to delay renewing offshore drilling arrangements with a US company, saying he wants to look them over.